

**EPA's Responses to Public Comments on the EPA's
Oil and Natural Gas Sector:
Emission Standards for NewReconstructedand Modified
*Sources***

May 2016

Comments, letters, and transcripts of the public hearings are also available electronically through
<http://www.regulations.gov> by searching Docket ID EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0505

FOREWORD

This document provides the EPA's responses to public comments on the EPA's Proposed Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Emission Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources. The EPA published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the Federal Register on September 18, 2015, at 80 FR 56593. The EPA received comments on this proposed rule via mail, e-mail, facsimile, and at three public hearings held in Dallas, Texas; Denver, Colorado; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in September 2015. Copies of all comments and transcripts for the public hearings are available at the EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room. Comments and transcripts of the public hearings for both actions are also available electronically through <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching Docket ID EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0505.

The EPA signed and announced the proposed rule on August 18, 2015, and the full text of the proposal was available for public review that same day on the EPA website (www.epa.gov/airquality/oilandgas/actions.html). The proposed rule was published in the Federal Register on September 18, 2015, 80 FR 56593, at which time the 60-day public comment period began, ending November 17, 2015. In response to stakeholder requests for additional time to review the proposal, the EPA extended the comment period to December 4, 2015 on November 13, 2015, at 80 FR 70179.

Over 900,000 public comments were received on the proposal. The EPA Docket Center consolidated approximately 77 mass mail campaigns and petitions into single document control numbers (DCNs), resulting in approximately 2,400 unique comments. Each of these comments was reviewed and all significant comments have been excerpted and included in this document. Please note that footnotes included in the commenters' letters have been omitted from the comment excerpt. Please see the original comment in the docket for these footnotes.

Many commenters submitted comments to this rulemaking docket that were specific to Review of New Sources and Modifications in Indian Country: Federal Implementation Plan for Managing Air Emissions from True Minor Sources Engaged in Oil and Natural Gas Production in Indian Country; and Release of Draft Control Techniques Guidelines for the Oil and Natural Gas Industry. Some commenters submitted a single DCN with comments on both rules, while others submitted a separate DCN specific to each action. Many commenters submitted identical comments to both dockets. In order to reduce duplicative comments, we have removed from this document comments associated with these other actions. For this reason, the EPA encourages the public to read the Response to Comment document prepared for these other three actions.

As a result of changes made to the preamble and final rule prior to signature, and due to the volume of comments received, it is possible some responses in the Response to Comments

Document may not reflect the language in the preamble and final rule in every respect. Where the response is in conflict with the preamble or the final rule, the language in the final preamble and rule controls and should be used for purposes of understanding the scope, requirements, and basis of the final rule. The responses presented in this document are intended to augment the responses to comments that appear in the preamble to the final rule or to address comments not discussed in that preamble. Although portions of the preamble to the final rule are paraphrased in this document where useful to add clarity to responses, the preamble itself remains the definitive statement of the rationale for the revisions adopted in the final rule. In many instances, particular responses presented in the Response to Comments Document include cross references to responses on related issues that are located either in the preamble, the Technical Support Document, or elsewhere in the Response to Comments Document. The number of comments received on the proposal may have resulted in errors or inconsistencies within the Response to Comment Document for the final NSPS.

Accordingly, the Response to Comments Document, together with the preamble to the NSPS and the information contained in the Technical Support Document, and the rest of the administrative record should be considered collectively as the agency's response to all of the significant comments submitted on the proposed rule. The Response to Comments Document incorporates directly or by reference the significant public comments addressed in the preamble to the NSPS as well as other significant public comments that were submitted on the proposed rule.

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